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FIRST TENNESSEE RECORD OF VIRGINIA'S WARBLER

Richard L. Knight
Johnson City, Tennessee

A Virginia's Warbler (*Oreothlypis virginiae*) was discovered by Bambi Fincher and Sherrie Quillen on 19 January 2019 at Riverfront Park along the South Holston River in Kingsport, Sullivan County, Tennessee. Quillen obtained a series of photographs that day. These observers did not immediately recognize the warbler, noting that it superficially resembled a Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*) with its bold white eye ring, but was gray overall with much less yellow on the undersides. Fincher and Quillen considered Virginia's Warbler as a possible identification, but realized an individual of that species would have been very far out of range. They were concerned that it might be a pale immature Nashville Warbler instead. Photos were sent to me by email, and I instantly recognized it as a Virginia's Warbler, a species with which I have some field experience. I went to the site the following morning (20 January) and soon relocated the bird, observing it for 15 minutes in good light at close range.

The following description is based on some of Quillen's later photos (Figures 1 and 2) and my notes made over several days of observation. This was a smallish warbler. The plumage was largely gray above and below, lacking any hint of green on the back or wings. It had a complete bold white eye ring and a faint rufous crown patch. Yellow in the plumage was restricted to a small patch of dull yellow in the center of the breast, bright yellow undertail coverts, and a pale yellowish rump. It is often difficult to determine the age and gender of Virginia's Warbler, as the males and females are very similar (Dunn and Garrett 1997, Pyle 1997). The males tend to have more yellow on the breast and more rufous in the crown. Therefore, I lean toward the Kingsport bird being a male, but of uncertain age.

The warbler was very active while foraging, often pumping its tail up and down. It gave frequent sharp chip notes. It mostly foraged in low vegetation consisting of shrubs, vines, and lower tree branches along the river. It seldom ventured higher than 4-5 m above ground,

Figure 1. Virginia's Warbler in Kingsport, Tennessee, 26 January 2019. Photo by Sherrie Quillen.

even dropping to the ground to forage in short grass. During its stay the Virginia's Warbler sometimes loosely associated with a mixed flock of other warblers and Ruby-crowned Kinglets (*Regulus calendula*), but it often stayed by itself. Occasionally it was chased by Yellow-rumped Warblers (*Setophaga coronata*). The Virginia's Warbler was seen through 2 February 2019 by an estimated 150+ birders. Additional photos are available at eBird. This warbler endured sub-freezing temperatures overnight several times in January, plus light snowfall on 29 January. On colder days it was more reliably seen close to the water's edge taking advantage of the milder microclimate there. It appeared to be foraging successfully, even on the coldest days. This sighting of Virginia's Warbler represents the first record for Tennessee, pending acceptance by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee.

Virginia's Warblers inhabit western North America, breeding in the southern Rocky Mountains and the mountain ranges of the Great Basin; they spend the winter in western Mexico (Dunn and Garrett 1997). They are casual migrants through the western Great Plains, but are very rare vagrants in the East. There are approximately 26 records from

Figure 2. Dorsal view of Virginia's Warbler in Kingsport, Tennessee. Photo by Sherrie Quillen.

14 states or Canadian provinces east of the Mississippi River, plus one from the Bahamas (Dunn and Garrett 1997, seasonal summaries in North American Birds 1997-2018). The ones nearest to Tennessee were from West Virginia, Georgia, and Alabama. Thus, the sighting in Tennessee is remarkable.

Acknowledgments: Thanks to Bambi Fincher, who spent many hours at the park assisting visiting birders, and Sherrie Quillen for use of her photographs in this article.

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UNUSUAL WINTER CONCENTRATON OF WARBLERS IN NORTHEAST TENNESSEE

Richard L. Knight
Johnson City, Tennessee

Numerous birders searching for a vagrant Virginia's Warbler at Riverfront Park in Kingsport, Sullivan County, Tennessee, during late January 2019 found 12 species of warblers (see list below) within a 1.6 km section of this linear park. All but one were documented by photographs. This remarkable concentration of warblers in a relatively small area during winter is unprecedented in the state. That this concentration occurred in late January is particularly noteworthy.

Riverfront Park is a section of the city's greenbelt that runs alongside the South Holston River. This linear park is roughly 15-30 m wide with a paved walkway down the middle. Bordering the river is a broken line of deciduous trees (mostly sycamore [*Platanus occidentalis*] and box-elder [*Acer negundo*]), a few small shrubs (including privet [*Ligustrum vulgare*]), some vines (including Japanese honeysuckle [*Lonicera japonica*] and English ivy [*Hedera helix*]) and forbs. Much of the park is covered in short grass, with a few trees scattered throughout. A busy street runs along the other edge of the greenbelt. The river creates a slightly milder microclimate along the shoreline, thus providing better foraging opportunities for insectivorous birds. This increased foraging potential certainly played a role in the concentration of these warblers.This was particularly important on 21 January when temperatures dipped to -13°C. Several other nights also experienced sub-freezing temperatures. A light snow fell on 29 January. During these coldest times the warblers mostly foraged in low vegetation within a few meters of the water's edge. On several days during this period, hatches of small flies (Diptera) were observed along the river edge. Many warblers were observed successfully gleaning these or some other type of small insects from the vegetation (R. Knight, pers. obs.).

Although 41 species of warblers are known from Tennessee, 36 as regular breeders or migrants and five others as vagrants, few of these species occur here during the winter. Only three species overwinter widely in the state: Yellow-rumped, Palm, and Pine warblers, with Orange-crowned Warbler wintering locally in small numbers. Common Yellowthroat occurs rarely in winter and another 18 eastern warblers are regarded as accidental visitors to the state in winter, most with five or fewer winter records and most only in December (Somershoe and Sloan 2015). Thus, it would seem rather unlikely that more than four or five warbler species could be encountered at any site within a short time span during winter, especially in late January. So the discovery of 12 warbler species during a two-week span in late January is quite remarkable. Up to nine species per day were seen at Riverfront Park during this event (R. Knight, pers. obs.).

The twelve warbler species found in Kingsport during late January 2019, with notations on their winter status in the state:

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*): 16 January - 10 February (1-4, possibly up to 6) seen by multiple observers. Photo on eBird: checklist S51918169 by Michael Todd. Uncommon to rare winter resident in the state (Somershoe and Sloan 2015), but showing a recent increase in winter records in East Tennessee (R. Knight pers. obs.). Most winter

records in the state are of one or two birds, so the high number reported here is impressive.

Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*): 22 / 25 January and 9-10 February (1) seen by multiple observers. Photos on eBird: checklist S51929700 by Evan Buck and checklist S52535984 by Sherrie Quillen. There are two previous winter records in the state, both in December (Somershoe and Sloan 2015) (Figure 1).

Virginia's Warbler (*Oreothlypis virginiae*): 19 January - 2 February (1) found by Bambi Fincher and Sherrie Quillen, and then seen by many observers during its stay. First state record of this western species, and one of very few ever found in eastern North America (Knight 2019b). Photos on eBird: checklist S51862102 by Sherrie Quillen and checklist S51918169 by Michael Todd.

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*): 22 January - 11 February (1 female), seen by multiple observers. Photo on eBird: checklist S52354121 by Ron Carrico. Regarded as a rare winter visitor statewide. There are at least 11 previous winter records in northeast Tennessee (Knight 2008).

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*): 26 January - 2 February (1 immature male) seen by many observers. Photos on eBird: checklist S52053954 by Colin Sumrall. There are four previous winter records in the state, all in December (Somershoe and Sloan 2015).

Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*): 22-23 January (1 female) and 26-27 January / 10 February (1 male), both seen by several observers. Photos on eBird: checklist S51929700 (the female) by Evan Buck; checklist S52079020 (the male) by Ron Carrico. There are eight previous winter records in the state spread throughout the season (Robinson 1990, Somershoe and Sloan 2015).

Northern Parula (*Setophaga americana*): 20 January - 2 February (1 male) seen by multiple observers. Photo on eBird: checklist S51876689 by Adrianna Nelson. There are three previous winter records in the state, all in December, including two earlier this winter (Somershoe and Sloan 2015, Knight 2019c).

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*): 20 January (1 female) adequate description by single observer (Kevin Brooks). There are four previous winter records in the state, all in December or the first week of January (Somershoe and Sloan 2015; Zipperer 2015, 2017).

Palm Warbler (*Setophaga palmarum*): 19 January - 28 February (1-7, all of the nominate Western subspecies) seen and photographed by many observers. This is an occasional to uncommon winter visitor statewide.

Pine Warbler (*Setophaga pinus*): 20 January - 10 February (1-2) seen by multiple observers. Photo on eBird: checklist S51994400 by Victor Stoll. Fairly common year-round resident in most of the state, but rare in winter in northeast Tennessee (Knight 2008).

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*): Throughout the season (10 to 50+ daily). This is a fairly common winter resident statewide.

Prairie Warbler (*Setophaga discolor*): 21 January (1) seen by two observers, photo by Ron Hoff confirmed by the author. There are four previous winter records in the state, all in December (Somershoe and Sloan 2015).

Most of these warblers were not seen after early February. Birding effort at this site declined significantly after the Virginia's Warbler disappeared, but a few local birders continued to monitor the site from early February into spring. Only Palm and Yellow-rumped warblers were found after mid February.

Of the 12 species of warblers found at Riverfront Park, six are accidental in Tennessee during winter (not counting the vagrant Virginia's Warbler): Nashville, Cape May, Yellow, and Prairie warblers, plus American Redstart and Northern Parula (Somershoe and Sloan 2015). These six are Neotropical migrants that typically winter south of the United States. Small numbers of Northern Parula and Prairie Warbler regularly overwinter in Florida, and all six species may rarely occur during winter elsewhere along the Gulf coast or southern Atlantic coast of the U.S. (Dunn and Garrett 1997). Exceptional winter records of these six species are known from other areas in the eastern U.S., mostly early in the season.

Unusual, in addition to these warblers, was a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) at Riverfront Park during 20 January - 2 February. This species is a rare winter visitor to the state (Somershoe and Sloan 2015).

Although the microclimate in the riparian strip had a concentrating effect, what brought this assemblage of warblers to northeast Tennessee in midwinter? Had they been present at this site or in the vicinity earlier in the winter? Were they late autumn holdovers, like the surprising number of lingering Neotropical migrants seen during November 2018 in East Tennessee (Knight 2019a)? There were no obvious weather anomalies that might account for the presence of these warblers in late January.

Figure 1. Nashville Warbler at Riverfront Park, Kingsport, Tennessee, on 9 February 2019. Photo by Sherrie Quillen.

The warbler concentration in Kingsport reported here is reminiscent of a phenomenon observed at a small downtown park in Atlanta, Georgia, in November and December 2009 in which numerous late migrants, mostly warblers, were found well past their normal departure dates (Blankenship and Farnau 2009). Light pollution as an attractant was one theory presented as an explanation; however, light pollution was not an issue at Riverfront Park in Kingsport. Furthermore, the concentration in Kingsport was found much later in winter than the one in Atlanta.

Whatever the cause, the winter warbler concentration at Riverfront Park in Kingsport was an extraordinary event.

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BOOK REVIEW — BIRD COUNT

Bird Count. Susan Edwards Richmond, 2019, Peachtree Publishing Company, Inc., 31 pages.

This is not a book one expects to see reviewed in an ornithological journal. It isn't a new field guide or scientific study, but a children's book. For a parent or grandparent who has ever tried to explain to a child what you do when you bundle up and head outdoors with binoculars in hand, this is the book you need. Or, if you are looking for something to spark children's interest in birding, this would be excellent for any elementary schoolroom or children's library.

Bird Count tells of a little girl's experience as she joins her mother and a friend on a Christmas Bird Count. It gives a very accurate description of the count and count methods in a way that is easily understandable to a child as it follows this team throughout the day. It also conveys her excitement and joy as she identifies and tallies the birds. The book is beautifully illustrated by Stephanie Fizer Coleman and shows accurate depictions of the species.

My copy of *Bird Count* was given to me by a friend who is not a birder, but who knows of my birding interests and remembers an aunt participating in bird counts. She says this is now the book her grandchildren request more than any other, and that they have learned to identify many of the birds illustrated. I believe that for many children this book could be the spark that ignites the passion we feel for birds and brings future birders into the fold.

Susan McWhirter, McMinnville, Tennessee

ROUND TABLE NOTE

COMMON LOON FALLOUT ON FORT CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY AND TENNESSEE — Fort Campbell Fish and Wildlife Program received phone calls 14-20 November 2018 to pick up injured Common Loons (*Gavia immer*) on Campbell Army Airfield (Christian County, Kentucky), Sabre Army Airfield (Montgomery County, Tennessee), and a few roads/parking lots across the installation. A total of 16 loons were retrieved and released into Lake Kyle (Stewart County). Lake Kyle is the largest body of water on Fort Campbell providing enough space for their long takeoff. Most of the loons exhibited only superficial wounds and a few missing feathers. All the loons appeared to be in good health once they were released (i.e. swimming and diving normally).

Loons are almost incapable of movement on land and cannot take off from land due to their heavy weight and positioning of their legs so far back underneath their body. Therefore when these loons were grounded from the storm on surfaces resembling water (ramps, runways, and parking lots), they were stranded.

This loon fallout occurred after Winter Storm Avery brought rain, freezing rain, sleet, and snow to the northern middle Tennessee area on 13-14 November. Loons were reported from other locations in the Montgomery County area as well, including Dunbar Cave State Park, Outlaw Field Airport, and the wetland at Trenton Road/Highway 374 intersection.

Daniel Moss, Fort Campbell, Tennessee

2019 TENNESSEE SPRING BIRD COUNTS

Ron Hoff
Loudon, Tennessee

Eight counts were conducted this year. Two hundred twenty observers put in just over 462 party hours to record 208 species and 43,935 individual birds. Every count this year was impacted by rain, sometimes heavy enough to end the count earlier than normal. Owling effort in the state amounted to 5.17 hours. Temperatures ranged from a cool 50°F in Nashville to 88° F in Shelby County. Highlights included Ruffed Grouse, Virginia Rail, Upland Sandpiper, Northern Saw-whet-Owl, Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied flycatchers, Western Kingbird, Bell's Vireo, and all the warblers except Connecticut.

The counts in the table are arranged geographically from west to east.

Taxonomic order follows the American Ornithological Society (AOS) Checklist of North and Middle American Birds, 59th supplement (2018) to the AOU Checklist.

COUNT SUMMARIES

BLOUNT COUNTY (BLNT) – 0500-2113. Weather: overcast with heavy rain showers in the morning; wind 0-5 mph; 68°-75° F. Highlights included Common Merganser, Snowy Egret, and Olive-sided Flycatcher. Observers: Jean J. Alexander (compiler), Warren Bielenberg, Doug Bruce, Wanda DeWaard, Melinda Fawver, Marian D. Fitzgerald, Tom E. Fitzgerald, Paul Hartigan, Kim J. Henry, Stephen P. Henry, Thomas D. Howe, Susan Hoyle, James R. Human, David M. Johnson, Evan Kidd, Julie Labhart, Karen J. Petrey, Logan Rosenberg, Carol Rothschild, Martha Rudolph, Michael G. Ryon, Mary Tankersley, Harumi Tsuruoka, Janet Webber, Ralph Webber, June D. Welch, Geoffrey White, Valerie Wininger, and Randy C. Winstead.

ELIZABETHTON (ELIZ) - 0300-2100. Weather: clear to partly cloudy, brief afternoon thunderstorms; wind light and variable; 53°-78° F. Observers: Fred Alsop, Jim Anderson, Rob Armistead, Beth Bailey, Betty Bailey, Gary Bailey, Jerry Bevins, Kent Blazier, Karen Borrelli, Belinda Bridwell, George Bridwell, Dallas Brooks, Kevin Brooks, Janet Brown, Cade Campbell, Debi Campbell, J. G. Campbell, Diane Draper, Glen Eller, Harry Lee Farthing, Bambi Fincher, Dave Gardner, Bill Grigsby, Jean Henson, Neal Henson, Jackie Hinshaw, Don Holt, Mike Hubley, Susan Hubley, Jack Kincade, Nancy Kincade, Rick Knight (compiler), Roy Knispel, Richard Lewis, Priscilla Little, Dianna Lynn, Vern Maddux, Larry McDaniel, Joe McGuiness, Cathy McNeil, Tom McNeil, Zach Mitchell, Linda Moulton, Harry Norman, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Lia Pritchard, Sherri Quillen, Ken Rea, Judith Reid, Brenda Richards, Judi Sawyer, Mickey Smith, Chris Soto, Bryan Stevens, Peggy Stevens, Kim Stroud, and Joyce Watson.

HAMILTON COUNTY (HAML) – 0515-2000. Weather: mostly cloudy with heavy rain in the morning and light rain in the afternoon; 64°-78° F. Sightings of note included both bitterns and an Upland Sandpiper. Observers: Harold Birch, Gary Brunvoll, Kevin Calhoon (compiler), Bruce Dralle, Bill Haley, Daniel Jacobson, Gary Lanham, Pixie Lanham, George Parsley, Barbara McMahan, Mike McMahan, Jeremey Rardin, Tommie Rogers, Debbie Shannon, and Roi Shannon.

KNOX COUNTY (KNOX) - 0610-2030. Weather: clear to partly cloudy in the morning, heavy rain and thunderstorms in the afternoon; wind W 0-5 mph; 62°-75° F. Highlights included nine Northern Bobwhites, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (identified by call), and a Wilson's Warbler. Observers: Jennifer Baldy, Nicole Behm, Bruce Billings, Frank Bills, Mary Bledsoe, Doug Bruce, Sharon Bostick, Lisa Chilano, Gail Clendenen, Steve Clendenen, Terry Crowe, Karen Eagle, K. Dean Edwards (compiler), Scott Engle, Chuck Estes, Lola Estes, Melinda Fawver, Carole Gobert, Leonard Graf, Paul Hartigan, Angela Hoffman, Susan Hoyle, James Human, Russ Jenness, Kristine Johnson, Bill Keeler, Mary Lucal, Morton Massey, Seth McConchie, Stephanie McNew, John O'Barr, Jilynn Parmly, Talissa Ralph, Kelly Roy, Martha Rudolph, Michael Ryon, Beth Schilling, Gisele Schoene, Courtney Shea, Kurt Sickafus, Dixie Thompson, Jimmy Tucker, Chris Welsh, Deb Welsh, Geoffrey White, and Michael Winck.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY (MONT) – 0500-1600. Weather: cloudy to partly sunny, heavy rain in the afternoon caused an early end to the count; wind SSW 7 mph; 55°-62°F. Notable sightings included Black-billed Cuckoo, Bell's Vireo, and Horned Lark. Observers: Susan Arnold, Tammy Devine, Elaine Foust (compiler), Joe Hall, Debbie Hamilton, Steve Hamilton, Chase Martin, Daniel Moss, Carly Rekosh, Cyndi Routledge, Steve Routledge, Nicole Santoyo, Brandy Schnettler, Rick Shipkowski, Susan Shipkowski (F/Y), Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll, Alan Troyer, and Amy Wallace.

NASHVILLE (NASH) - 0500-1600. Weather: overcast with periods of rain; 50°-75° F. Notable finds included Snowy Egret, Laughing Gull, Sedge Wren, and Dickcissel. Observers: Shivbish Bhandari, Kevin Bowden, Susan Bradfield, Trae Bradfield, Jean Buchannan, Ed Byrne, Phillip Casteel, Richard Connors, Tammy Devine, Michael Doochin, Graham Gerdeman, Gregg Greenhow, Sherlene Spicer Greenhow, Joseph Hall, Debbie Hamilton, Barbara Harris (compiler), John Kell, Denis Lovell, Emily Moorman, Ken Oeser, Nicole Santoyg, Brandy Schnettler, Sarah Scott, Tom Seador, Jan K. Shaw, Sheila Shay, Danny Shelton, Michael Smith, Chris Sloan, Joe Stone, and Pandy Upchurch.

PERRY COUNTY (PRRY) - 0350-1940. Weather: light to heavy rain; 50°- 80° F. Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, and Wilson's Phalarope were new species. Observers: Adam Beachy, Evan Beachy, Seth Beachy, Joseph Byler, Abi Cernava, Joel Fernandez, David Kinsinger, Ruben Stoll (compiler), Victor Stoll, Alan Troyer, Leona Troyer, and Marty Tucker.

SHELBY COUNTY (SHLB) – 0530-1830. Weather: partly cloudy, stronger winds in the afternoon; wind S 3-17 mph; 67°-88° F. Highlights included Sora. Observers: Judith Barrie, Judy Dorsey, Margaret Jefferson, Rusty Johnson, Dianna Johnson, Dick Preston (compiler), Becky Rooney, Mary Schmidt, Norman Soskel, Ed Thomas, Jim Varner, and Martha Waldron.

Chestnut-sided Warblers were present on 7 of 8 Spring Bird Counts in 2019 with 62 individuals observed. *Photo credit: Ron Hoff*

2019 Spring Counts

Counties	SHLB	MTGM	PERRY	NSHV	HMLT	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Date	11-May	11-May	10-May	5/4-5/19	4-May	4-May	11-May	4-May	
Species	113	142	157	158	134	132	116	154	208
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
Canada Goose	76	178	42	89	229	234	119	454	1421
Wood Duck	22	71	79	5	9	49	65	60	360
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	21	5	-	-	1	-	27
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	7
Gadwall	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Mallard	73	8	3	49	88	79	22	151	473
Redhead	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Bufflehead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Hooded Merganser	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	4
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	6
Northern Bobwhite	-	13	5	4	1	9	7	-	39
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Wild Turkey	4	21	26	47	5	22	43	38	206
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	3
Rock Pigeon	71	3	33	49	175	24	59	179	593
Eurasian Collared-Dove	9	1	5	1	2	-	5	2	25
Mourning Dove	44	104	140	83	162	208	322	263	1326
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2	20	22	13	1	12	17	11	98
Black-billed Cuckoo	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	6	9
Common Nighthawk	2	-	11	-	1	1	2	1	18
Chuck-will's-widow	-	1	1	-	2	1	6	8	19
Eastern Whip-poor-will	-	-	8	-	50	-	4	28	90
Chimney Swift	17	58	231	96	32	46	95	112	687
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	8	14	15	6	2	20	17	25	107
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Sora	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	3	8
American Coot	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	4
Black-necked Stilt	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
Semipalmated Plover	1	7	1	2	1	-	1	-	13
Killdeer	8	20	20	23	29	38	12	29	179
Upland Sandpiper		-		-	1	-	-	-	1
Stilt Sandpiper	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Least Sandpiper	48	19	25	6	12	2	-	5	117
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Semipalmated Sandpiper	6	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	10
Western Sandpiper	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Woodcock	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	5	-	1	2	-	1	9
Wilson's Phalarope	2	-	3		-	-			5
Spotted Sandpiper	4	7	18	7	2	7	7	27	79

Counties	SHLB	MTGM	PERRY	NSHV	HMLT	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Solitary Sandpiper	3	8	15	6	4	9	-	16	61
Greater Yellowlegs	5	-	5	1	2	2	-	-	15
Lesser Yellowlegs	12	5	17	1	4	-	-	2	41
Laughing Gull	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Ring-billed Gull	-	-	-	63	1	-	-	-	64
Herring Gull	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Caspian Tern	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
Forster's Tern	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	5
Common Loon	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-	8
Double-crested Cormorant	-	3	23	38	29	66	11	82	252
American White Pelican	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
American Bittern	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	3
Least Bittern	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Great Blue Heron	10	11	53	112	40	60	51	115	452
Great Egret	15	24	2	13	4	-	2	-	60
Snowy Egret		-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Cattle Egret		-	3	12	3	-	-	-	18
Green Heron	4	8	13	5	9	6	16	15	76
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	1	13	-	1	-	5	20
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	9
Black Vulture	6	37	106	255	32	30	13	117	596
Turkey Vulture	9	50	102	54	35	24	17	99	390
Osprey	2	3	4	7	18	20	23	10	87
Mississippi Kite	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Northern Harrier	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	4
Cooper's Hawk	1	2	1	6	2	1	1	6	20
Accipiter sp.	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Bald Eagle	-	3	9	1	2	-	-	5	20
Red-shouldered Hawk	6	5	12	10	7	5	8	1	54
Broad-winged Hawk	-	-	2	4	3	2	1	2	14
Red-tailed Hawk	1	2	3	15	11	7	16	18	73
Eastern Screech-Owl	-	-	1	4	5	-	1	4	15
Great Horned Owl	1	-	2	1	1	-	2	1	8
Barred Owl	2	4	12	8	1	3	-	7	37
Northern Saw-Whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Belted Kingfisher	1	8	13	6	4	5	-	13	50
Red-headed Woodpecker	5	6	1	5	7	5	1	2	32
Red-bellied Woodpecker	31	39	42	59	43	74	65	92	445
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	4	6
Downy Woodpecker	19	30	25	38	16	36	23	21	208
Hairy Woodpecker	1	11	10	5	1	5	8	10	51
Northern Flicker	2	9	6	7	5	16	11	21	77
Pileated Woodpecker	7	2	20	26	8	7	15	41	126
American Kestrel	4	2	2	4	-	1	2	9	24
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

Counties	SHLB	MTGM	PERRY	NSHV	HMLT	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Eastern Wood-Pewee	26	46	36	34	13	5	6	18	184
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Acadian Flycatcher	18	14	16	22	2	1	4	8	85
Willow Flycatcher	-	3	-	-	-	2	3	1	9
Least Flycatcher	1	1	-	4	-	-	-	5	11
Eastern Phoebe	29	16	59	24	26	22	43	103	322
Great Crested Flycatcher	19	42	19	36	33	15	17	21	202
Western Kingbird	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Eastern Kingbird	22	22	58	40	44	25	37	77	325
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
White-eyed Vireo	45	48	87	74	46	13	22	16	351
Bell's Vireo	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Yellow-throated Vireo	6	7	19	3	9	2	6	2	54
Blue-headed Vireo	-	2	-	6	2	1	23	60	94
Philadelphia Vireo	-	12	1	3	-	-	-	-	16
Warbling Vireo	6	2	7	19	-	-	-	5	39
Red-eyed Vireo	36	32	89	69	90	58	63	261	698
Blue Jay	22	31	56	77	80	144	69	194	673
American Crow	35	74	168	87	80	87	135	246	912
Fish Crow	5	-	-	-	11	16	4	-	36
Common Raven	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	14
Horned Lark	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Purple Martin	16	16	119	27	24	18	61	33	314
Tree Swallow	5	25	48	18	44	106	65	240	551
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	27	20	67	88	80	53	40	134	509
Bank Swallow	-	2	12	5	-	-	-	-	19
Cliff Swallow	115	194	177	366	214	279	74	584	2003
Barn Swallow	73	67	81	94	71	98	95	188	767
Carolina Chickadee	29	49	51	81	72	91	55	106	534
Tufted Titmouse	58	56	54	99	71	93	77	142	650
Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	10	12
White-breasted Nuthatch	17	17	7	24	13	18	14	17	127
Brown-headed Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	13	9	4	-	26
Brown Creeper	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	4
House Wren	-	12	-	3	9	6	6	63	99
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Sedge Wren	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	3
Marsh Wren	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	4
Carolina Wren	47	64	65	142	119	176	172	153	938
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	41	63	95	107	51	35	36	66	494
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	3	3	-	4	-	-	10
Eastern Bluebird	33	59	58	113	81	91	111	129	675
Veery	-	2	6	9	4	1	1	27	50
Gray-cheeked Thrush	-	5	8	12	-	2	-	-	27

Counties	SHLB	MTGM	PERRY	NSHV	HMLT	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Swainson's Thrush	10	14	14	47	9	6	5	3	108
Hermit Thrush	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	3
Wood Thrush	20	15	35	39	37	26	14	91	277
American Robin	41	79	56	117	145	248	329	581	1596
Gray Catbird	3	3	22	10	9	28	18	76	169
Brown Thrasher	15	21	28	37	51	35	79	65	331
Northern Mockingbird	57	48	44	62	88	115	131	88	633
European Starling	67	174	448	381	158	271	401	654	2554
Cedar Waxwing	25	151	177	82	179	232	43	39	928
House Sparrow	12	32	82	36	61	47	48	59	377
House Finch	11	28	11	52	41	108	90	68	409
Purple Finch	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	4
Pine Siskin	-	1	6	-	-	-	-	9	16
American Goldfinch	22	80	142	105	59	91	75	175	749
Eastern Towhee	6	64	18	84	98	118	63	153	604
Chipping Sparrow	19	50	74	46	65	27	31	128	440
Field Sparrow	5	47	65	88	35	75	58	68	441
Savannah Sparrow	9	11	80	1	6	7	-	3	117
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	4	-	-	-	4	2	5	15
Henslow's Sparrow	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Song Sparrow	-	4	-	23	44	93	66	303	533
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	3	20	1	-	-	-	-	24
Swamp Sparrow	-	1	26	2	-	-	-	-	29
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	5	11	-	10	2	2	30
White-crowned Sparrow	-	2	20	2	-	5	-	1	30
Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54	54
Yellow-breasted Chat	6	32	60	29	41	14	55	8	245
Bobolink	352	4	275	27	-	1	-	-	659
Eastern Meadowlark	18	16	42	24	48	30	31	95	304
Orchard Oriole	8	38	101	34	22	35	27	34	299
Baltimore Oriole	6	1	11	18	2	4	3	46	91
Red-winged Blackbird	70	106	328	137	135	203	205	381	1565
Brown-headed Cowbird	53	91	383	104	39	75	59	91	895
Common Grackle	9	27	154	82	144	189	341	371	1317
Ovenbird	-	1	1	5	12	1	4	127	151
Worm-eating Warbler	-	1	9	8	10	2	1	28	59
Louisiana Waterthrush	-	6	19	8	2	2	3	27	67
Northern Waterthrush	-	4	29	5	1	3	-	1	43
Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Blue-winged Warbler	-	1	6	5	-	-	-	-	12
Black-and-white Warbler	-	2	18	8	15	3	3	96	145
Prothonotary Warbler	12	32	61	22	2	3	2	-	134
Swainson's Warbler	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	8	9
Tennessee Warbler	55	27	59	89	8	4	-	1	243
Nashville Warbler	-	2	3	8	-	1	-	1	15
Mourning Warbler	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2

Counties	SHLB	MTGM	PERRY	NSHV	HMLT	KNOX	BLNT	ELIZ	Totals
Kentucky Warbler	18	11	71	23	4	2	-	-	129
Common Yellowthroat	6	54	80	93	17	65	53	23	391
Hooded Warbler	7	5	20	21	17	12	10	157	249
American Redstart	8	2	18	13	2	10	4	14	71
Cape May Warbler	-	-	1	4	4	6	1	6	22
Cerulean Warbler	12	-	2	5	-	1	-	1	21
Northern Parula	29	24	96	44	2	8	19	44	266
Magnolia Warbler	2	1	3	25	2	4	-	4	41
Bay-breasted Warbler	-	2	3	14	2	-	-	2	23
Blackburnian Warbler	-	-	1	9	-	1	-	10	21
Yellow Warbler	3	21	21	11	3	5	4	11	79
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	3	5	17	2	4	-	30	62
Blackpoll Warbler	-	4	12	21	7	4	-	1	49
Black-throated Blue Warbler	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	71	74
Palm Warbler	-	4	46	27	6	9	-	1	93
Pine Warbler	2	6	5	5	29	6	13	8	74
Yellow-rumped Warbler	-	4	34	19	2	10	1	5	75
Yellow-throated Warbler	5	13	25	27	6	-	14	20	110
Prairie Warbler	-	14	53	15	33	1	20	5	141
Black-throated Green Warbler	4	7	5	16	8	2	7	75	124
Canada Warbler	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	40	46
Wilson's Warbler	-	2	2	2	-	1	-	-	7
Summer Tanager	32	52	59	69	11	3	3	2	231
Scarlet Tanager	3	12	45	27	37	18	9	86	237
Northern Cardinal	73	149	174	256	114	314	300	248	1628
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2	13	53	20	3	9	-	15	115
Blue Grosbeak	-	25	24	12	6	18	12	7	104
Indigo Bunting	74	135	300	147	80	75	163	145	1119
Dickcissel	64	40	111	1	1	-	-	1	218
Total individuals	2639	3672	6921	5773	4375	5321	5169	10065	43935
Total species	113	142	157	158	134	132	116	154	208
Observers	12	18	12	31	15	46	29	57	220
Parties	5	8	5	8	7	32	16	11	92
Party hours	23.5	42.88	48	46.72	56	81.38	72.8	91	462.28
Hours by car	8	17.51	16	15.5	30	13.19	30.49	-	130.69
Hours by foot	15.5	25.37	27	31.22	26	68.19	42.31	-	235.59
Hours by canoe or other	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	5
Miles by car	39.5	176.9	122	151	308	166.43	267.7	-	1231.53
Miles by foot	15.75	16.7	22	22.34	24	47.62	35.42	-	183.83
Miles by canoe or other	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
Hours owling	0.75	0.25	1	-	4	-	2.17	7	15.17
Miles owling	0.5	-	-	-	26	-	13	-	39.5
Feeder observers	-	2	-	-	-	-	11	-	13
Feeder hours	-	2	-	-	-	24.78	13	-	39.78

MINUTES OF THE SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

27 April 2019
Nashville, Tennessee

The annual Spring meeting was held 27 - 28 April in Nashville and hosted by the Nashville Chapter. Field trips for the weekend were offered to Radnor Lake, Bells Bend, Timberland, and the Burch Reserve at Warner Park. The Board of Directors meeting was held at the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere on Saturday 27 April.

President Steve Routledge called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm. Secretary Cyndi Routledge determined a quorum was met. The minutes of the Fall 2018 meeting were accepted as corrected.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AT LARGE and PUBLICATIONS

Treasurer - Pam Lasley reported that assets for the society at the end of 2018 were $353,196, including cash of $9,868; fair market value of our Vanguard investments is $342,181. The year saw our investments experience a net decline of $1,051 due to overall markets plummeting in the last quarter of the year. By the end of the first quarter of 2019 our market value had more than recovered, with an increase of $22,407.

Total revenue for the year was $12,837, roughly 88% of that from memberships and subscriptions. Total expenses were $22,694. Publications and communications, at $15,133, is our largest expense and includes four issues of *The Migrant*, *The Warbler* newsletter, website maintenance, and the deposit for our website design. We disbursed $2,440 for research grants and printed 5000 *Discover Birds Activity Books* for $3,000. Insurance cost $997. Overall, the net excess of expenses over revenue was $9,857.

Total memberships and subscriptions were down slightly, with memberships totaling 630, down 10 from 2017.

As noted above, our investments had a good year until the last quarter. Dividends and interest for 2018 were $15,218 but a loss in market value of $16,179 netted us a slight loss. At March 31 our portfolio had risen to $361,659 even after an operating transfer of $5,000 that month. In 2018 we distributed $10,000 to our operating cash account for the year. Returns are 7.7% for 1 year return, 3 year annualized is 8.9%, 5 year is 6.9%, and 10 year annualized return on investments is 9.2%. The portfolio remains defensively structured with approximately 46% in equity positions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Conservation Policy Committee – Co-chair Dick Preston reported the work done by the committee since the last state meeting, and the report was placed on file.

Conservation Research Funding – Chair Michael Collins reported the funding of all four proposals received this year for a total of $6,068. These are the study of the ecology of Barn Owls, migrating cuckoos, parental investment in Prothonotary Warblers, and banding Saw-whet Owls.

Educational Grants Subcommittee – Three projects were funded this year. These were a raptor education and rescue program at Hiwassee/Ocoee State Park, a rural busing program for schoolchildren to support Friends of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge and Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge, and educational signage at the Kingsport Greenbelt.

TNBird – Rob Biller, who replaces Andy Jones, and Dave Worley are the TNBird moderators.

Nominating Committee – Committee chair Susan McWhirter placed in nomination the following slate of officers:

President – Danny Gaddy
Vice Presidents – Dick Preston, West; Danny Shelton, Middle; and Chris Welsh, East
Secretary – Cyndi Routledge
Treasurer – Pam Lasley
Directors-at-Large – Allan Trently, West; Mac McWhirter, Middle; Susan Hubley, East
This passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

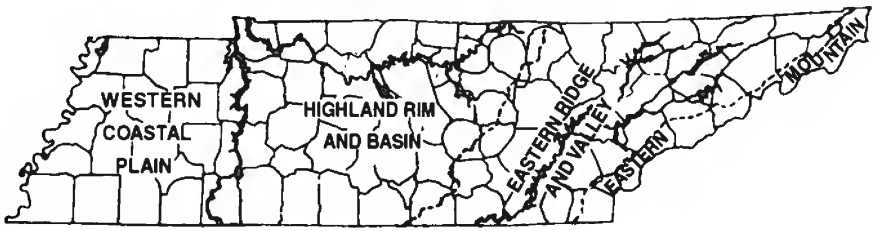
Ashley Heeney reported that all the navigation and organizational structures for the new website are in place, and the visual and basic content is being reviewed and organizes. Ron Hoff made the motion that Bob Ford, editor of *The Migrant*, be given approval to develop a proposal for digital/electronic access to *The Migrant*. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cyndi Routledge, Secretary

THE WINTER SEASON

Richard L. Knight, Editor



1 December 2018 - 28 February 2019

Temperatures were on the mild side this season, particularly in February. Copious rainfall, especially in February, caused flooding in many areas across the state.

A Virginia's Warbler in Kingsport provided the first state record and one of few sightings in eastern North America. A Western Tanager spent its second consecutive winter in Wilson County. Rarities in West Tennessee included Common Ground-Dove, Little and Iceland gulls, and Say's Phoebe. Three separate Eurasian Wigeon drakes were found in the mid-state. You would think a hen had to be hidden among the other wigeons, albeit difficult to distinguish from its American relatives. Red-necked Grebe, Harris's Sparrow, and Yellow-headed Blackbird appeared in two regions. Boreal irruptives were represented by widespread Red-breasted Nuthatches and Purple Finches, smaller numbers of Pine Siskins, a few American Tree Sparrows in West and Middle Tennessee, and two separate female Evening Grosbeaks.

Most seasons seem to have a theme. For this winter the theme clearly was of lingering Neotropical migrant passerines. Among these were Eastern Wood-Pewee (2 reports), White-eyed Vireo (3), Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (4), Baltimore Oriole (4), Summer Tanager (3), and Indigo Bunting. More amazing, 18 species of warblers were observed this winter, of which 11 species were completely unexpected: Black-and-white (2), Tennessee (4), Nashville (2), Cape May (2), Magnolia, Yellow, Prairie, Canada, and Wilson's warblers, plus American Redstart and Northern Parula (3). Four species represented first winter records for the state: Eastern Wood-Pewee, Yellow-throated Vireo, and Magnolia and Canada warblers. Some winters might produce a couple of these lingerers, but to have this many in one winter seems to defy conventional wisdom. What was driving this event? Surely it was more than just the milder weather, as we have experienced other winters that were as mild, yet without this high number of lingering songbirds.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult
CBC - Christmas Bird Count
Co - County
Cr - Creek
lrs - latest reported sighting
max - maximum count
m.ob. - many observers
Mtn - Mountain

ers - earliest reported sighting
et al. - and others
fide - reported by
im - immature
L - Lake
NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
R - River
SNA - State Natural Area
SP - State Park
WMA - Wildlife Management Area

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION - - Temperatures and precipitation across the region fell within normal ranges in December and January. However, February temperatures were 3.5 degrees above normal and rainfall was 4.5 inches greater than normal. The Mississippi River reached flood stage, causing significant flooding in four counties bordering the river.

The period saw its share of unusual sightings. A Say's Phoebe spent nearly four months at the Agricenter in Shelby County, and a Whooping Crane made a brief appearance in Obion County, which also hosted a Long-eared Owl. A Baltimore Oriole spent a month at a feeder in Tipton County, while two Summer Tanagers appeared at feeders in Shelby County. The Camden landfill in Benton County produced an Iceland Gull and a record count of Lesser Black-backed Gulls.

Boreal irruptives made a good showing with Red-breasted Nuthatches widespread and numerous, as were Purple Finches and Pine Siskins. American Tree Sparrows were reported in three counties.

Thanks to everyone who submitted observations, especially those with photographs.

Duck - Crane: **Canvasback**: 2 Feb (2440) Big Sandy Unit (RS, VS), max. **Redhead**: 9 Dec (18) Edmund Orgill Park (DDP). **Greater Scaup**: 10 Dec / 12 Jan (465 / 400) Paris Landing SP (RS, VS), max. **Black Scoter**: from Nov thru 9 Dec (1 male) Edmund Orgill Park (DDP); 9 Jan (1) Paris Landing SP (DJS). **Common Goldeneye**: 10 Dec / 2 Feb (1450 / 1900) Paris Landing SP (RS, VS), max. **Common Merganser**: 13 Dec (1 female) Britton Ford (RS, VS); 17 Jan (2 males, 1 female) Bennett's Cr Overlook, Henry Co (MCT). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 9 Dec (22) Edmund Orgill Park (DDP). **Horned Grebe**: 14 Jan (20) Reelfoot L (MAG). **Common Ground-Dove**: 29 Dec (1) Madison Co (MAG). **Virginia Rail**: 14 Dec (1) Ghost River SNA, Fayette Co (Allan Trently); 15 Dec (1) Tiptonville wastewater lagoon, Lake Co (JH, RS, VS, MAG). **Sora**: 10 Feb (1) Hyde L, Shelby Co (Cliff VanNostrand, photo). **Sandhill Crane**: 30 Dec (2500+) Hop-In Refuge (MCT), max; 14 Feb (14) Shelby Farms (DDP). **Whooping Crane**: 1 Jan (1) Rives, Obion Co (Nancy McKenzie, photo).

Plover - Tern: **Killdeer**: 9 Jan (850) South Garrett Sawmill Rd, Obion Co (MAG), max. **Least Sandpiper**: 10 Dec (12) Ed Davis fish farm, Gibson Co (MAG). **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 20 Feb (1) Coffee Landing (RS), ers. **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 10-11 Feb (1) TVA Lake, Shelby Co (DDP, MTOS / RS, VS). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 18 Jan (1) Adamsville, Hardin Co (Warren Massey, photo); 20 Feb (7) Coffee Landing (RS); 24 Feb (3) Lake Co (AL). **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 24 Feb (14) Lake Co (AL), ers; 27 Feb (3) Obion Co (MAG). **Little Gull**: 14 / 17 Dec, 11 Jan (1 ad) Reelfoot L (MCT, MAG). **Laughing Gull**: 17 Dec (1 im) Reelfoot L

(MAG). **Herring Gull**: 23 Jan (400+) Camden landfill (RS, DR, AT), max. **Iceland Gull**: 23-29 Jan (1 im) Camden landfill (AT, RS, DR, MCT). **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 12 Jan (3) Britton Ford (RS, VS); 29 Jan (16) Camden landfill (RS), new high count in state. **Forster's Tern**: 20 Jan (3) Paris Landing SP (DDP et al.); 8 Feb (1) Herb Parsons L, Fayette Co (DDP); 22 Feb (4) Reelfoot L (RS, VS); 25 Feb (1) Thousand Acre L, Carroll Co (Stanley York).

Loon - Falcon: **Red-throated Loon**: 10 Dec / 17 Jan / 2 Feb (1) Paris Landing SP area (RS, VS, MCT); 30 Dec - 14 Jan (1) Reelfoot L (MCT, MAG, RS). **Pacific Loon**: 16 Dec (1) Britton Ford (VS, AT). **American White Pelican**: 28 Jan (210) Reelfoot L (RS, VS), max. **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 17 Jan (1 im) Bennett's Cr Overlook, Henry Co (Robert Wheat). **"Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk**: 3 Dec (1) Bogota WMA (MAG); 27 Dec (1) Hop-In Refuge (MAG). **Rough-legged Hawk**: thru 22 Feb (1) Jolly Landing, Lake Co (MAG, m.ob.); 10 Dec - 14 Jan, 27 Feb (1) North Garrett Sawmill Rd, Obion Co (MAG); 14 Dec (1) Lower Hatchie NWR, Lauderdale Co (RDH, DMy). **Golden Eagle**: 17-19 Jan (1-2) Big Sandy Unit (MCT, m.ob.). **Long-eared Owl**: 12 Feb (1) Hop-In Refuge (AT). **Short-eared Owl**: 30 Dec - 28 Jan (1-2) Obion Co (MCT / RS, VS). **Merlin**: 30 Dec (1) Lake Co (MCT); 9 Jan / 5 Feb (1) Obion Co (MAG); 12 Jan (2) Britton Ford (RS, VS); 17 Jan (1) Big Sandy Unit (MCT). **Peregrine Falcon**: 9 Dec (1) Shelby Farms (Michael Jones); 10 / 13 Dec (1) Paris Landing SP (RS, VS); 19 Jan (1) Big Sandy Unit (MCT et al.).

Flycatcher - Sparrow: **SAY'S PHOEBE**: 22 Dec / 9-25 Feb (1) Agricenter, Shelby Co (Andrea Cowart, photo, m.ob.). **White-eyed Vireo**: 20 Jan (1) Reelfoot Lake SP (AL, photo). **Blue-headed Vireo**: 5 Dec (1) Shelby Farms (Bob Foehring); 10 Dec (1) Gibson Co (Steve Yarbrough, photo); 25 Dec (2) Chickasaw trail, Memphis (Laure Marsh); 29 Dec (1) Madison Co (BSc); 26 Feb (1) Lichterman Nature Center, Shelby Co (Mary Schmidt). **Fish Crow**: 28 Feb (2) Camden landfill (RS). **Purple Martin**: 26 Feb (4) Lichterman Nature Center, Shelby Co (Mary Schmidt), ers. **Tree Swallow**: 9 Jan (2) Thorny Cypress WMA, Dyer Co (Bob Ford). **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 10 Feb (2) Coro L, Shelby Co (DDP, MTOS), wintering birds or early migrants? **Lapland Longspur**: 15 / 28 Jan (20-25) Everett Airport, Obion Co (MAG / RS, VS); 25 Jan (5) Obion R Bottoms, Obion Co (MAG); 20 Jan (100) Reelfoot Lake SP (AL). **American Tree Sparrow**: 15 Jan (1) Tiptonville, Lake Co (DR, RS, VS, MAG); 22 Jan (1) Gibson Co (MAG); 28 Jan (1) Bogota WMA (RS, VS); 12 / 22 Feb (4) Jolly Landing, Lake Co (AT / RS, VS). **Vesper Sparrow**: 2 Jan (1) Lake Co (MAG); 28 Jan (1) Bogota WMA (RS, VS). **Lark Sparrow**: 14-30 Jan (1) Reelfoot Lake SP (MAG, RS, DR, AL). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 20 Jan (1) Reelfoot Lake SP (AL, photo); 22 Jan (1) Gibson Co (MAG). **"Oregon" Dark-eyed Junco**: 22 Feb (1) Reelfoot Lake SP (RS, VS, photo).

Blackbird - Bunting: **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: 2-3 Jan (1) Obion Co (MAG, MCT). **Western Meadowlark**: 3 Jan (8) Obion Co (MCT); 28 Jan (1) Arnold Airfield, Lauderdale Co (RS, VS); 30 Jan (3) South Garrett Sawmill Rd, Obion Co (MAG); 18-20 Feb (3) Coffee Landing (DR, RS). **Baltimore Oriole**: 4 Dec - 4 Jan (1 im male, at feeder) Munford, Tipton Co (DDP). **Rusty Blackbird**: 22 Feb (1500) Lake Co (RS, VS), max. **Tennessee Warbler**:

10 Dec (1) Paris Landing SP (RS, VS, photo); 15 Dec (1) Reelfoot L (MCT et al.), on CBC. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 13 Dec (1) Haywood Co (RDH, DMy); 28 Jan / 24 Feb (3 / 2) Reelfoot Lake SP (RS, VS / AL); plus several reports in Shelby Co (m.ob.). **Nashville Warbler**: 18-21 Feb (1) Memphis (Justin Hensley, photo). **Common Yellowthroat**: 5 Jan / 2 Mar (1 male) Hatchie NWR, Haywood Co (Maureen Ellis). **Summer Tanager**: 15 Dec (1 female, at feeder) Memphis (Chad Brown, photo); 30 Jan (1 female, at feeder) Shelby Co (Susan Riley, photo). **Indigo Bunting**: 1 Jan (1 im male) Wolf R Greenway, Shelby Co (Thomas Blevins, photo).

Locations: Big Sandy Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Henry Co; Bogota WMA - Dyer Co; Britton Ford - Henry Co; Camden landfill - Benton Co; Coffee Landing - Hardin Co; Edmund Orgill Park - Shelby Co; Hop-In Refuge - Obion Co; Paris Landing SP - Henry Co; Reelfoot L - Lake Co; Reelfoot Lake SP - Lake Co; Shelby Farms - Shelby Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION - - Temperatures this winter were above average each month. December was + 4.6 degrees and January was + 2.3 degrees, while February really turned up the heat at + 7.2 degrees. Similarly, each month saw above average precipitation. December and January each received about an inch more than normal, while February was also the most extreme in rainfall at + 9.5 inches.

Birds of interest this winter included Eurasian Wigeon, Red-necked Grebe, Rough-legged Hawk, Evening Grosbeak, Harris's Sparrow, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Western Tanager.

Waterfowl: **Snow Goose**: 6 Dec (1) Rutherford Co (Hugh Barger); 18 Dec (3) Lawrence Co (DR); 8 Jan (1) Radnor L (Jan Shaw). **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 19 Jan (52) Fowler Rd (EvB). **Blue-winged Teal**: 18 Dec (2) Fowler Rd (RSh, DSh); 9 Jan - 24 Feb (1 male) Cedar Hill Park, Davidson Co (Susan Turnbach, m.ob.). **Eurasian Wigeon**: 20 Dec - 4 Feb (1 male) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, m.ob., photo); 29 Dec (1 male) Hardin Co (DJS et al.); 28 Jan (1 male) Fowler Rd (DJS). **Canvasback**: 9 Feb (40) Hillsboro Pond, Coffee Co (BD). **Greater Scaup**: 17 Jan (45) Pickwick L (RS, AT); 26 Jan (70) Woods Reservoir (VS, AT). **Surf Scoter**: 2 Feb (5) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **White-winged Scoter**: 9 Dec (1) New City L, Dickson Co (DR, photo); 2 Feb (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **Common Merganser**: 9 Dec (2 females) Pickwick L (AL). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 8 Dec (220) Pickwick L (RS), max.

Grebe - Tern: **Horned Grebe**: 11 Jan / 10 Feb (422 / 575) Woods Reservoir (SNM, NPM / RS, VS), max. **Red-necked Grebe**: 11-19 Jan / 10-15 Feb (1) Woods Reservoir (SNM, NPM / RS, VS). **Virginia Rail**: 13 Dec / 3 Feb (2 / 3) Walker Branch SNA (Allan Trently / RS, VS); 31 Dec (1) Duck R Unit (DR); 2 Jan (2) Monsanto Ponds, Maury Co (GG). **Sora**: 15 Dec (1) Bell's Bend (MS et al.); 3 Feb (2) Walker Branch SNA (RS, VS). **Sandhill Crane**: 10 Dec (800, at roost) Fountain Grove, Coffee Co (SNM, NPM). **Dunlin**: 10 Dec - 4 Feb (1) Duck R Unit (DR, RS, VS). **Least Sandpiper**: 18 Dec (1) Fowler Rd (RSh, DSh). **Greater Yellowlegs**:

26 Feb (2) Bell's Bend (FF), ers. **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 1 Dec / 3 Feb (1 ad) Old Hickory L, Sumner / Wilson Cos (MS / Ann Shapiro); 1 Dec (1 im) Percy Priest L, Rutherford Co (JN); 8 Dec (1 ad) Pickwick L (RS); 11 Jan (1 ad) New Johnsonville, Humphreys Co (RS). **Forster's Tern**: 13-16 Dec (5-14) Kentucky Lake, Houston Co (RS, VS, JH); 22 Dec (1) Duck R Unit (MAG); 20 Feb (1) Pickwick L (RS).

Loon - Falcon: **Red-throated Loon**: 8 Dec - 31 Jan / 20 Feb (1 / 4) Pickwick L (RS); 12-22 Jan / 14-19 Feb (1-3) Percy Priest L, Davidson Co (JN, GG, m.ob.); 2 Feb (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS); 7-15 Feb (1-2) Woods Reservoir (Susan Lanier, photo / RS, VS). **Pacific Loon**: 8 Dec (1) Pickwick L (RS); 8 Dec / 11-20 Jan (1) Percy Priest L, Davidson Co (MS, FF, GG, Phillip Casteel / Richard Connors, Jan Shaw, m.ob.). **Common Loon**: 10 Feb (250) Woods Reservoir (RS, VS), max. **American White Pelican**: 8 Dec (7) Pickwick L (RS); 8 Jan (135) Duck R Unit (GG); thru season (max 408 on 3 Feb) Drake's Cr, Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (MS, m.ob.). **American Bittern**: 5 Feb (1) Walker Branch SNA (DR). **Great Egret**: 4 Feb (1) Montgomery Co (JH). **Cattle Egret**: 11 Dec (1) Percy Priest L, Rutherford Co (JN, Robin Nation). **Green Heron**: 12 Dec / 5-24 Feb (1) Centennial Park, Davidson Co (GG), 3rd straight winter at this site; 3 Jan (1) Williamson Co (Chris Agee). **Osprey**: 12 Feb (1) Pickwick L (RS, Clyde Cole), ers. **Golden Eagle**: 13 Dec (2) Cross Cr NWR, Stewart Co (AL); 21 Dec - 19 Jan (1-2) Duck R Unit (RS et al.); 26 Jan (1) Woods Reservoir (VS, AT); 20 Feb (1 ad) Pickwick L (RS). **"Harlan's" Red-tailed Hawk**: 1 Feb (1) Haynes Bottom WMA, Montgomery Co (SWo, GG, photo). **Rough-legged Hawk**: 28 Jan - 1 Feb (1) Fowler Rd (DJS / Stephen Zipperer). **Short-eared Owl**: 2 Dec - 28 Feb (1-2) Eagleville (Kristy Baker, m.ob.). **Merlin**: thru season (1) Eagleville (m.ob.); 15 Dec / 30 Jan (1) Fowler Rd (Dan Snell / RS); 5 Jan (1) Edgar Evins SP, DeKalb Co (Mark Taylor); 17 Jan (2) Savannah Bottoms, Hardin Co (RS, AT); 4 / 16 Feb (1) Duck R Unit (RS / Ken Oeser, Jackie Corbin); 5 Feb (1) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo); 8 Feb (1) Bell's Bend (FF). **Peregrine Falcon**: thru season (1-3) Nashville (m.ob.); 22 Dec (1) Duck R Unit (MAG); 27 Dec (1) Old Hickory L, Davidson Co (GG); 29 Dec / 12 Feb (1) Pickwick L (VS, AT / RS, Clyde Cole); 28 Jan / 4 Feb (1) Fowler Rd (DJS / EvB).

Vireo - Sparrow: **White-eyed Vireo**: 3 Jan (1) Old Hickory dam, Davidson Co (FF); 16 Feb (1) Crooked Branch Park, Davidson Co (MS, Phillip Casteel). **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 29 Dec (1) Pickwick Dam (AT, VS). **Blue-headed Vireo**: 14-17 Jan (1) Pickwick Dam (AT, RS). **Fish Crow**: 26 Jan / 27 Feb (1) Woods Reservoir (VS, AT / BD). **Purple Martin**: 28 Feb (1) Perry Co (VS, RS), ers. **Tree Swallow**: 8 Dec (1) Pickwick L (RS); 10 Feb (6) Woods Reservoir (RS, VS), ers; plus 4 other Feb reports from Davidson, Humphreys, and Sumner Cos. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: scattered reports. **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 11 Jan (2) Woods Reservoir (SNM, NPM). **House Wren**: Dec reports from Davidson, Lawrence, and Montgomery Cos (GG, MS, DJS, DMo); 26 Feb (1) Trousdale Co (RDH, DMy). **Sedge Wren**: 3 Feb (1) Walker Branch SNA (RS, VS). **Marsh Wren**: 22 Dec (2) Duck R Unit (RS); 3 Feb (1) Walker Branch SNA (RS, VS). **Gray Catbird**: 17 Dec (1) Radnor L (Randy Harrod); 22 Dec (1) Duck R Unit (RS); 26 Jan (1) Franklin Co Park (RDH, DMy). **Evening Grosbeak**: 12-13 Dec (1 female, at feeder) Palmyra, Montgomery Co (Stanley York, m.ob., photo).

Lapland Longspur: 6 Jan (1) Savannah Bottoms, Hardin Co (DR); 12 Jan (8) Robertson Co (AT). **American Tree Sparrow**: 21 Jan (2) Liberty Park, Montgomery Co (SWo); 25 Jan (1) Montgomery Co (JH); 8 Feb (1) Cross Cr NWR, Stewart Co (Steve Routledge, Cyndi Routledge). **Vesper Sparrow**: 3 Dec (2) Eagleville (Nancy Robb); 4 Feb (10) Fowler Rd (EvB). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 12 Dec (1) Perry Co (RS); 20 Dec (1) Humphreys Co (RS, VS); 25 Dec (1) Hog Cr Bottoms, Decatur Co (RS). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 7 Dec (1) Humphreys Co (RS); 19 Dec (1) Fort Campbell, Montgomery Co (DMo); 22 Dec (1) Duck R Unit (MS); 24 Dec (1) Harpeth R Greenway (FF); 27 Jan (1) Perry Co (RS). **Harris's Sparrow**: 20 Dec - 3 Jan (1 ad) Hurricane Mills, Humphreys Co (RS, VS, AT), where one wintered last year.

Blackbird - Tanager: **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: 15 Dec (1 ad male) Fowler Rd (Dan Snell); 15-18 Feb (1, at feeder) Maury Co (MM, RS, VS). **Brewer's Blackbird**: 12 Feb (2 males) Haynes Bottom WMA, Montgomery Co (SWo). **Louisiana Waterthrush**: 22 Feb (1) Perry Co (Russ Wells, photo), new early arrival date in state. **Black-and-white Warbler**: 10 / 12 Feb (1) Harpeth R Greenway (Abra Osorio / Josh Stevenson, photo); 25 Feb (1) McMinnville, Warren Co (NPM). **Tennessee Warbler**: 22 Dec (1) Harpeth R Greenway (FF). **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 12 Jan (1, at suet feeder) Bellevue, Davidson Co (FF); 8 Feb (1) Ellington Ag Center, Davidson Co (Richard Connors). **Common Yellowthroat**: 22 Dec / 3 Feb (1 im male / 1 female) Duck R Unit (MS, photo / Steve Routledge, Cyndi Routledge, photo). **Palm Warbler**: 16 Dec (2) Overton Co (BSc, MM); 11 Jan (2) Eagleville (Nancy Robb); 19 Jan (1) Fowler Rd (EvB); 20 Feb (1) Hardin Co (RS); 25 Feb (1) Rutherford Co (Chris Agee). **Summer Tanager**: 1 Dec (1 male) Williamson Co (Kathy Malone, photo). **Western Tanager**: from Nov thru 28 Feb (1) Wilson Co (Carolyn Johansson, m.ob., photo).

Non-countable exotic: **Scaly-breasted Munia**: 3 Dec (2 im) Lick Cr, Perry Co (AT, photo), non-native; semi-established on central Gulf coast from Houston, Texas to Florida panhandle.

Locations: Bell's Bend - Davidson Co; Duck R Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Humphreys Co; Eagleville - Rutherford Co; Fowler Rd - irrigation pond in Lincoln Co; Harpeth R Greenway - Davidson Co; Pickwick L - Hardin Co; Radnor L - Davidson Co; Walker Branch SNA - Hardin Co. Woods Reservoir - Franklin Co.

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE and VALLEY REGION - - Mild temperatures prevailed this winter with February being the mildest at nearly 7 degrees above normal. Rainfall was above average each month. Indeed, this was the wettest winter on record in many areas. The heaviest rains fell in February, with 10.5 inches in the Tri-cities being the most ever recorded in that month. Areas further west received up to 15 inches. With the ground already saturated, these heavy rains in February caused widespread flooding and localized landslides. The only significant snowfall of the season occurred on 9 December,

with 6-10 inches accumulating in the Tri-cities area.

It was an off-season for geese, following exceptional numbers last winter. All three American scoters plus Long-tailed Ducks were found, along with good numbers of Canvasback and Greater Scaup. Also noteworthy were Red-necked Grebe, Common Gallinule, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Red-throated and Pacific loons, Golden Eagle, and Harris's Sparrow. Good numbers of wintering American White Pelicans and Great Egrets continued this year. Also of interest were three Green Heron reports in December. Boreal irruptives included small to moderate numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches, Purple Finches, and Pine Siskins. A single Evening Grosbeak was the first regional report since December 2012.

This was an amazing winter for lingering Neotropical migrant songbirds, with Eastern Wood-Pewee (2 reports), Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (4), Baltimore Oriole (3), and a stunning display of 16 species of warblers (including regular wintering species and a vagrant). The wood-pewee, Magnolia Warbler, and Canada Warbler were the first winter records in the state. A Virginia's Warbler was a new state record. An unusual concentration of 12 winter warblers in Kingsport is detailed in this issue.

Waterfowl: **Snow Goose**: 12 Dec (2) Morristown (SHu); 25 Feb (1) Tellico Dam, Loudon Co (David Verhulst, MM); 5 Feb (1) Paddle Cr Pond (RRK, JDA et al.); only reports. **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 12-31 Dec (1) Morristown (SHu), only report. **Cackling Goose**: 21 Jan (5) Valley Home Pond, Jefferson Co (MAG et al.), only report. **Blue-winged Teal**: 31 Dec (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (RHo); 6-9 Feb (2) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (David Buehler et al.); 9 Feb (4) Bradley Co (Michael Brothers); 28 Feb (2) Brainerd Levee (BD). **Canvasback**: representative counts: 16 Dec / 31 Jan (110 / 240) L Hiawatha, Cumberland Co (EKL); 31 Dec - 21 Jan (30) Valley Home Pond, Jefferson Co (SHu, m.ob.); 5 Jan (178) Soddy L, Hamilton Co (RSh, DSh); 31 Jan (25) John Sevier L (SHu); 1-26 Feb (1-6) Paddle Cr Pond (RRK, JDA, m.ob.); 2 Feb (14) Fort Loudoun L, Loudon Co (RDH, DMy); 3 Feb (110) Hiwassee Refuge (EvB); 4 Feb (20) Hitch Pond, Blount Co (WB); 6 Feb (26) Nickajack L (BD); 7 Feb (55) Watts Bar L, Rhea Co (MM); 8-9 Feb (50-65) Chickamauga L (Kent DuBois, DRJ). **Redhead**: 7 Feb (350) Watts Bar L, Rhea Co (MM), max. **Greater Scaup**: 31 Jan (19) L Tansi (EKL); 2 Feb (19) Melton Hill L (MM); 3 Feb (10) Watts Bar L (RoK); 4-26 Feb (1-6) Paddle Cr Pond (RLK, m.ob.). **Surf Scoter**: 10 Dec (4) Watts Bar L (MM, m.ob.). **White-winged Scoter**: 2 / 14-16 Feb (8 / 3) Chickamauga L (Libby Wolfe / BD). **Black Scoter**: 9 Dec (1 female) Boone L, Sullivan Co (PGR, m.ob.); 10 Dec (1 female) Watts Bar L (MM, m.ob.). **Long-tailed Duck**: 10 Dec (1) Watts Bar L (Eric Bodker, m.ob.); 6-7 Feb (1 female) Nickajack L (BD); 15 Feb (1 male) Chickamauga L (MM). **Common Goldeneye**: 10 Dec (15) Fort Patrick Henry L, Sullivan Co (BFi); 20 Jan / 9 Feb (1 / 3) Kingsport (BFi / RLK); 2 Feb (30) Melton Hill L (MM); 3 Feb (14) Watts Bar L (RoK); 8 Feb (11) John Sevier L (SHu); 10 Feb (9) Holston R, Hawkins Co (SHu). **Hooded Merganser**: 12 Dec (177) Cherokee L, Grainger Co (SHu), max. **Common Merganser**: 23 Dec - 6 Jan (3 females) Fort Loudoun L, Knox Co (CDS, m.ob.); 29 Dec - 31 Jan (1-5) L Tansi (EKL); 31 Jan (4) John Sevier L (SHu); 27 Feb - 1 Mar (1 female) Watts Bar L, at Kingston Steam Plant (Robert Hunt, m.ob.).

Grebe - Tern: **Red-necked Grebe**: 5-14 Dec (1) Fort Loudoun L, Knox Co (Valerie Wininger, photo, m.ob.). **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 3 Jan (19) Limestone (RLK), new high count in NE Tenn. **Rufous Hummingbird**: thru season (1) Johnson City (fide Kevin Brooks). **Virginia Rail**: 6 Jan / 26 Feb (1 / 2) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC, DRJ). **Sora**: 25 Dec - 7 Feb (1-2) Alcoa (Tom Howe); 6 Jan (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC, DRJ). **Common Gallinule**: 2 Jan (1) John Sevier L (SHu). **Sandhill Crane**: 1 Dec (7) Kingsport (Bill Grigsby); 9 Dec (1) Johnson City (Larry McDaniel); 29 Dec (107) Bible Refuge, Greene Co (Glen Eller, PGR); 31 Dec - 12 Jan (140 - 230) White Pine, Jefferson Co (Allen Welch, m.ob.); east of usual areas. **Whooping Crane**: from late Nov - 3 Feb (1-2) Hiwassee Refuge (m.ob.); 30 Dec - 11 Feb (1) White Pine, Jefferson Co (Allen Welch, m.ob.). **Dunlin**: 5 Dec - 13 Jan (6-7) South Mouse Cr (RHo, m.ob.), regular wintering area; 24 Jan (7) Hiwassee Refuge (RS, VS). **Least Sandpiper**: 13 Dec - 11 Feb (max 35) South Mouse Cr (RHo, m.ob.), regular wintering area; 27 Feb (2) Limestone (RLK), new early arrival date in NE Tenn. **Greater Yellowlegs**: 12 Dec (1) Cherokee L, Grainger Co (SHu); 14 Dec (1) Gupton Wetland, Roane Co (RoK); both late; 24-25 Feb (1) Knox Co (Stephany McNew, m.ob.), ers. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 2 Dec (1) Fort Loudoun L, Knox Co (CDS), late. **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 2 / 10 Feb (1 ad) Watts Bar L, Rhea / Meigs Cos (David Buehler / RHo). **Forster's Tern**: 29 Dec (1) Warrior's Path SP, Sullivan Co (BFi).

Loon - Falcon: **Red-throated Loon**: 3-4 Feb (1) Chickamauga L (KAC et al.); 22 Feb (1) Watts Bar L, Rhea Co (RSh, DSh, photo). **Pacific Loon**: 3-4 Feb (1) Chickamauga L (Libby Wolfe, m.ob.). **Common Loon**: 3 Feb (128) Watts Bar L (RoK), max. **American White Pelican**: from Nov - 28 Feb (75-280) Hiwassee Refuge and vicinity (m.ob.); 27 Jan (103) Riley Cr Rec Area, Roane Co (BSc); 15-28 Feb (32-37) Ish Cr Bay, Fort Loudoun L, Blount Co (WB, m.ob.); 24 Feb (180) Watts Bar L, Rhea Co (RDH, DMy). **Great Egret**: 2 Dec - 17 Jan (9-16) South Mouse Cr (RHo); 3 Dec - 11 Jan (2-8) Lackey Cr, Blount Co (RW, m.ob.); 8 Dec - 10 Feb (3-6) Riley Cr Rec Area, Roane (RoK); 18 Dec - 30 Jan (1) Brainerd Levee (Michael Yablick, m.ob.); 28 Dec (1) Melton Hill L (Melinda Fawver); 4 Jan (7) Cove Island, Knox Co (MM); 22 Jan - 6 Feb (1) Kingsport (PGR, m.ob.); 24 Jan (1) Hiwassee Refuge (RS, VS). **Green Heron**: 2 Dec (1) Cove Lake SP, Campbell Co (Nell Moore); 4 Dec (1) Grainger Co (David Buehler); 23 Dec (1) Brainerd Levee (Joe Dunkleman, Liz Dunkleman, photo). **Black Vulture**: 19 Dec (460, at roost) Tennessee R, Loudoun Co (RoK), max. **Osprey**: thru season (1-2) Knoxville area lakes (RoK, m.ob.), wintering regularly in recent years in this area; 29 Dec / 31 Jan (1) L Tansi (EKL); 27 Feb (2) Hiwassee Refuge (Charles Murray). **Golden Eagle**: 8 Feb (1) Cumberland Co (EKL). **Merlin**: thru season (1-2) Lakeshore Park, Knox Co (Jerry Ledbetter, m.ob.); 2 Dec (1) Cove Lake SP, Campbell Co (Nell Moore); thru season (1) Heritage Center Greenway, Roane Co (RoK, Chuck Estes); 22 Dec (1) Marion Co (RSh, DSh); 30 Dec (1) Grundy Co (RSh, DSh); 2 Jan (1) Alcoa (WB); 3 Jan / 16 Feb (1) Bowmantown, Washington Co (RLK); 7 Jan (1) Bradley Co (RHo); 18 Jan (1) Johnson City (RRK); 5 Feb (1) Chuck Swan WMA, Union Co (MM); 28 Feb (1) Morristown (Kirk Huffstater). **Peregrine Falcon**: thru season (1) Chattanooga (KAC, m.ob.); 8 Jan (1) Bowmantown, Washington Co (RLK); 25 Jan (1) Riverfront Park (Eric Bodker); 6 Feb (1) Cherokee Farm, Knox Co (Doug Raybuck).

Pewee - Oriole: **Eastern Wood-Pewee**: 7 Dec (1) TVA trail, Kingsport (RLK), well seen and heard calling; 27 Dec - 3 Jan (1) Ooltewah, Hamilton Co (David Stone, photo, DRJ et al.), also well seen and heard calling, apparently this bird was present since 16 Nov; these are the first winter records in the state. **Blue-headed Vireo**: 17-28 Dec / 22 Jan (1) Amnicola Marsh (KAC, Michael Yablick); 10 Jan (1) Loudon Co (RDH, DMy). **Fish Crow**: 7 Jan thru season (1-2) Riverfront Park (RLK, m.ob.). **Common Raven**: 17 Jan (1) Limestone (RLK); 21 Jan (1) Baileyton, Greene Co (AT); 22-27 Jan (1-2) Riverfront Park (m.ob.); 10 Feb (2) Rogersville, Hawkins Co (SHu); 18 Feb (1, on nest) Bristol Motor Speedway, Sullivan Co (Michele Sparks). **Purple Martin**: 25 Feb (1 male) Chester Frost Park, Hamilton Co (DRJ), ers. **Tree Swallow**: 3 Feb (1) John Sevier L (SHu), (1) Brainerd Levee (N. Wright), and (2) Heritage Center Greenway, Roane Co (RDH, DMy), ers; with an additional 21 reports in Feb from Anderson, Blount, Hamilton, Hancock, Marion, Sullivan, and Washington Cos. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: widespread in small numbers. **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 22 / 23 Dec (1 / 7) Gatlinburg golf course, Sevier Co (Mark Armstrong / KW), 1st Co record. **House Wren**: 10+ reports from Blount, Hamilton, Hancock, Knox, McMinn, Meigs, Rhea, and Roane Cos. **Sedge Wren**: 24 Jan (1) Kyker Bottoms, Blount Co (Michael Ryon). **Marsh Wren**: 4 Dec (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 25 Dec (2) Alcoa (Tom Howe). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 3 Dec (1) Meadowview golf course, Kingsport (Michael Taylor, photo); 20 Jan - 2 Feb (1) Riverfront Park (BFi, m.ob., photo); 26 Jan (1) Amnicola Marsh (Augustus Mealor); 12 Feb (1) John Sevier L (SHu). **Gray Catbird**: 8 Jan (1) Polk Co (RHo); 12 Jan (1) Maryville (Evan Kidd, photo). **Evening Grosbeak**: 25 Jan - 8 Feb (1 female, at feeder) Sewanee, Franklin Co (Jim Peters, m.ob.). **Purple Finch**: 10 Feb (30) Maryville (Valerie Wininger), max. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 21 / 22 Jan (1) Riverfront Park (MCT / Jeffrey Bailey), 5th winter record in NE Tenn. **Harris's Sparrow**: 3 Dec (1 ad) Scott Co (Ian Hearn, photo). **Rusty Blackbird**: 24 Jan (480) Jefferson Co (RS, VS), max. **Baltimore Oriole**: 29 Dec (1) Riverfront Park (Neal Henson, Jean Henson, photo); 19 Jan (1, at feeder) Knox Co (Robert Terrell, photo); 19 Feb into Mar (1, at feeder) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh, photo).

Warblers: **Tennessee Warbler**: 8-10 and 20-24 Dec (1, at suet feeder) Johnson City (Larry McDaniel, photo), in heavy snow on day of discovery. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 4 / 25 Dec (2 / 3) West Dyllis Orchard Rd trail, Roane Co (RoK); 4 Dec (1) Eagle Bend fish hatchery, Anderson Co (RDH, DMy); 8 Dec (1) River Bluff Wildlife Area, Knox Co (Michael Harvey); 8 Dec / 9 Feb (1) Gupton Wetland, Roane Co (RoK); 9 Dec - 2 Feb (1, at feeder) Knoxville (Chris Welsh); 17-19 Dec (1-2) Amnicola Marsh (KAC, BD); 22 Dec / 2 Jan (1) Melton Hill Park, Knox (CDS / MM); 26 Dec (3) Renaissance Park, Chattanooga (BD); 28 Dec (1) Chattanooga (BD); 7 Jan (1) TVA trail, Kingsport (RLK); 13 Jan (1) Melton Hill Dam, Loudon Co (Michael Ryon); 16 Jan - 10 Feb (1-4+) Riverfront Park (BFi, Sherrie Quillen, m.ob.); 16 Jan / 11 Feb (1) Tennessee Riverpark, Chattanooga (BD); 18-19 Jan (1) Cherokee Farm, Knox Co (John O'Barr / CDS); 22 Jan (1) Seven Islands SP, Knox Co (Bill Keeler); 30 Jan - 12 Feb (1, at feeder) John Sevier L (SHu); 10 Feb (1) Gilbert Dr marsh, Knox Co (MM); 10 Feb (1) Nickajack L (Kristy Baker). **Nashville Warbler**: 22 / 25 Jan and 9-10 Feb (1) Riverfront Park (EvB, Doug Raybuck, m.ob., photos), 1st winter record in NE Tenn. **VIRGINIA'S WARBLER**: 19 Jan - 2 Feb (1) Riverfront Park (BFi, Sherrie Quillen, m.ob.,

photos), 1st state record. **Common Yellowthroat**: 22 Dec / 9 Mar (1) Halls Greenway, Knox Co (Jacob Wessels, photo / Shane Williams); 25 Dec / 6 Jan (1 im male) Standifer Gap Marsh (N. Wright / KAC, DRJ); 22 Jan - 11 Feb (1 female) Riverfront Park (Shane Williams, m.ob.). **American Redstart**: 26 Jan - 2 Feb (1 im male) Riverfront Park (m.ob., photos), 2nd winter record in NE Tenn. **Cape May Warbler**: 22-23 Jan (1 female) and 26-27 Jan / 10 Feb (1 male) Riverfront Park (EvB, Doug Raybuck, m.ob. / RBB, RMC, RLK, m.ob.), photos of both birds. **Northern Parula**: 9 Dec (1) Maryville Greenway (Evan Kidd, photo); 18 Dec (1) Warrior's Path SP, Sullivan Co (BFi); 20 Jan - 2 Feb (1) Riverfront Park (Adrianna Nelson, m.ob., photos). **Magnolia Warbler**: 5 Jan (1) Knox Co, on CBC (RDH, DMy, Frank Bills, Sharon Bostick), 1st winter record in state. **Yellow Warbler**: 20 Jan (1 female) Riverfront Park (Kevin Brooks), 1st winter record in NE Tenn. **Palm Warbler**: 20+ reports from Anderson, Bledsoe, Blount, Bradley, Hamilton, Knox, Loudon, McMinn, Meigs, Monroe, Polk, Sullivan, and Washington Cos (m.ob.). **Prairie Warbler**: 21 Jan (1) Riverfront Park (RDH, DMy, photo), 1st winter record in NE Tenn. **CANADA WARBLER**: 11 Dec - 20 Jan (1) Curtain Pole Rd at Tennessee Riverpark, Chattanooga (Robert Scott, m.ob., photos), 1st winter record in state. **Wilson's Warbler**: 2 Jan (1 male) TVA trail, Kingsport (RLK), 1st winter record in NE Tenn.

Locations: Alcoa - Blount Co; Amnicola Marsh - Hamilton Co; Brainerd Levee - Hamilton Co; Chickamauga L - Hamilton Co; Fort Loudoun L - Knox Co (unless specified otherwise); Hiwassee Refuge - Meigs Co; John Sevier L - Hawkins Co; Johnson City - Washington Co; Kingsport - Sullivan Co; L Tansi - Cumberland Co; Limestone - Washington Co; Maryville - Blount Co; Melton Hill L, Anderson / Knox Cos; Morristown - Hamblen Co; Nickajack L - Marion Co; Paddle Cr Pond - Sullivan Co; Riverfront Park - Kingsport, Sullivan Co; South Mouse Cr - Bradley Co; Standifer Gap Marsh - Hamilton Co; Watts Bar L - Roane Co (unless specified otherwise).

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION - - It was a mild and wet winter. Temperatures were over 3 degrees above normal in both December and January, while February was more than 7 degrees above normal. Total precipitation was about 10 inches above normal for the period. February was the wettest on record with over 11 inches for the month. The only significant snow event came on 9 December when about 10 inches fell in the northern mountains.

Waterfowl numbers were low this winter, perhaps due to the milder conditions. Wintering sparrows appeared to be in reduced numbers, also. The predicted influx of irruptive species didn't really materialize in the Tennessee mountains. There were scattered irruptives, but nothing of any volume.

Waterfowl: **Ross's Goose**: 9 Jan (1) Erwin (Jeffrey Platt, photo on eBird). **Canvasback**: 3-11 Feb (1) Wilbur L, Carter Co (BP, JP, m.ob.); 26 Feb (2) South Holston L (RRK, JDA et

al.); only reports. **Greater Scaup**: 10 Jan - 28 Feb (1-11) Wilbur L, Carter Co (BP, JP, RLK, m.ob.); 1-4 Feb (5-6) South Holston R weir (RRK, JDA et al.). **Black Scoter**: 2 Dec (2) South Holston L (David Kirschke). **Common Goldeneye**: 4 Dec (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (WB); 24 Jan (1 male) Fishery Park, Erwin (Mike Hubley); 2 Feb (1 female) South Holston R weir (BP, JP); 7-11 Feb (4 females) Watauga R (BP, m.ob.); only reports. **Common Merganser**: 13 Dec (2 males, 1 female) Laurel L, Blount Co (RW); 4 Jan (1 male) Middle Prong, Little Pigeon R, Sevier Co (KW); 11 Feb (1 male, 2 females) Nolichucky R, Washington Co (Larry McDaniel); 27 Feb (1 male, 1 female) Watauga R (Harry Farthing); thru period (2-11) Little R, Blount Co (RW, m.ob.). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 5 / 19 Feb (7 / 9) South Holston L (RRK, JDA et al.).

Loon - Falcon: **Common Loon**: 6 Dec (1) Erwin (Joe McGuiness), grounded in driveway and taken to pond on Erwin linear trail, where it lingered thru 10 Feb, apparently 1st Co record. **Osprey**: 8 Dec (1) South Holston R weir (RBB, RMC); 15 Dec (1) Watauga L, at Butler, Johnson Co (Fred Alsop et al.). **Bald Eagle**: 30 Dec (1 ad, at nest) South Holston L, near the dam (Kevin Hamed, Tom Laughlin et al.), new nest site. **Short-eared Owl**: 7 Dec - 1 Feb (1-2) Cades Cove, GSMNP (RW, WB, m.ob.). **Merlin**: 30 Dec (1) South Holston L (Rack Cross, RLK), on Bristol CBC; 5 Jan (1) Pittman Center, Sevier Co (KW). **Peregrine Falcon**: 25 Dec (1) Holston Valley, Sullivan Co (RBB, RMC); 7 Jan (1) Watauga Dam, Carter Co (Kevin Brooks); 7-27 Jan (1-2) Cades Cove, GSMNP (WB); 14 Feb into Mar (pair) Doe River Gorge, Carter Co (PGR).

Shrike - Sparrow: **Loggerhead Shrike**: 1 Jan (1) Neva, Johnson Co, on CBC (Guy McGrane, RLK, RRK), few Co records. **Tree Swallow**: 28 Feb (5) Watauga R (RLK), ers. **Black-capped Chickadee**: 25 Dec (16) Mt LeConte, GSMNP (Michael Harvey), good number. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: few reports. **Gray Catbird**: 31 Dec (1) Erwin (Brayden Paulk); 3 Feb (1) Elizabethton, Carter Co (Harry Farthing); 5 Feb (1) Gatlinburg, Sevier Co (Carol Williams, photo). **Purple Finch**: thru season, small numbers locally at feeders in Carter Co (BP, Fred Alsop, Judi Sawyer); 16 Jan (40) Gee Cr, Polk Co (RHo), max. **Pine Siskin**: few reports. **White-throated Sparrow**: reported in lower numbers than usual.

Locations: Erwin - Unicoi Co; GSMNP - Great Smoky Mtns National Park; South Holston L - Sullivan Co; South Holston R weir - Sullivan Co; Watauga R - Carter Co.

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EvB - Evan Buck
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BD - Bruce Dralle
FF - Frank Fekel
BFi - Bambi Fincher
GG - Graham Gerdeman
MAG - Mark A. Greene
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RDH - Ron D. Hoff
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RW - Randy Winstead
SWo - Stefan Woltmann

MTOS - Memphis chapter, TOS

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The Migrant records observations and studies of birds in Tennessee and adjacent areas.

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